



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,641	11/05/2001	Kristen L. Bhatti	10017079-1	4887

7590 03/10/2006
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/010,641	BHATTI, KRISTEN L.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Satwant K. Singh	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,13,15 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,13,15 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This communication is in response to the amendment filed on 23 January 2006.
2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 23 January 2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 8, 13, and 17 under Okimoto et al. (US 6,449,055) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Matsubara (JP 06-092541).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsubara (JP 06-092541).
6. Regarding Claim 1, Matsubara discloses a method for print scheduling, comprising: providing, at a user workstation, information to be printed as a print job (printing jobs to be executed); receiving a user input at the user workstation, identifying a time for printing the print job (scheduled time of the printing job to be executed); and

transmitting the print job from the user workstation to a printer at a time corresponding to the time identified by the user input (After the output of the printing job, a document sorting control means 4 acquires the document printing data of the prepared document file and stores the document printing data by assigned destinations of distribution in a spool file. The document printing data is then outputted by the destination of distribution to a printing device 6) (Abstract, CONSTITUTION, and paragraph [0008]).

7. Regarding Claim 2, Matsubara discloses a method, further comprising: receiving a second user input at the user workstation, identifying a date for printing the print job; and wherein the print job is transmitted to the printer on a date corresponding to the date identified by the second user input (schedule management tool which stores in day by day [job activation] the print job which should be performed, and its activation schedule time of day) (paragraphs [0008] and [0018]).

8. Regarding claim 3, Matsubara discloses a method, wherein the printer receives the print job at a time corresponding to the time identified by the user input and then prints the print job (a document file is generated when it reaches at activation schedule time of day, and this print job is completed) (paragraph [0008]).

9. Regarding Claim 5, Matsubara discloses a method, wherein the printer is one of a laser printer, an ink jet printer, an impact printer, a solid-ink printer and a multifunction device (Drawing 1, printing device 6).

10. Regarding Claim 6, Matsubara discloses a method, further comprising: receiving a second user input identifying the printer (assigned destinations of distribution) (Abstract, CONSTITUTION, paragraph [0008]).

Art Unit: 2625

11. Claims 8, 13 and 17 are rejected for the same reason as claim 1.
12. Claims 9 and 18 are rejected for the same reason as claim 4.
13. Claim 10 is rejected for the same reason as claim 2.
14. Claim 11 is rejected for the same reason as claim 3.
15. Regarding Claim 15, Matsubara discloses a print scheduling system, wherein the means for initiating transmission is a digital data processor of the user workstation (document sorting control means 4) (Abstract, CONSTITUTION).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

16. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

17. Claims 4, 9, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsubara in view of Zhang et al. (US 6,016,478).
18. Regarding Claim 4, Matsubara fails to teach a print scheduling method, wherein the print job comprises at least one of word processing data, spreadsheet data, graphical data, and database data.

Zhang et al teach a print scheduling method, wherein the print job comprises at least one of word processing data, spreadsheet data, graphical data, and database data (database management systems, wordprocessors, spreadsheets and the like) (col. 4, lines 53-67).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Matsubara with the teaching of Zhang to have the contents of the transmitted print jobs to be comprised of word processing documents, spreadsheet documents, or the like to allow the user to be able to print various types of documents.

19. Claims 9 and 18 are rejected for the same reason as claim 4.

20. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsubara in view of Okimoto et al. (US 6,449, 00).

21. Regarding Claim 19, Matsubara fails to teach a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable medium comprises volatile memory.

Okimoto et al teaches a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable medium comprises volatile memory (Fig. 2(b) RAM 133).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Matsubara with the teaching of Okimoto to comprise the computer memory with RAM and ROM since most computers on the market are manufactured with RAM and ROM.

22. Regarding Claim 20, Matsubara fails to teach a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable medium comprises non-volatile memory.

Okimoto et al teaches a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable medium comprises non-volatile memory (Fig. 2(b) ROM 138).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Matsubara with the teaching of

Art Unit: 2625

Okimoto to comprise the computer memory with RAM and ROM since most computers on the market are manufactured with RAM and ROM.

Conclusion

23. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Masui (JP 06-195183) discloses printing out print jobs requested from external devices while managing a queue with a scheduler 5.

Shiohara (US 6,822,754) discloses a print data generation system.

Wakai et al. (US 6,587,861) disclose an apparatus and method for controlling execution of a job.

Okimoto et al. (US 6,449,055) disclose a print system capable of exchanging data in the form of electronic mail between a plurality of computer system over the Internet.

Wegeng et al. (US 5,528,375) disclose an apparatus and method of scheduling and printing a job in a printing machine.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2625

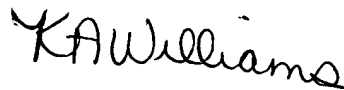
number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



sks

Satwant K. Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2625



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER